

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

S E C R E T STATE 279148

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 279148 ACTION PHNOM PENH INFO BANGKOK
JAKARTA PARIS PEKING TOKYO USUN CINCPAC 20 DEC

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 279148

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB, US

SUBJECT: GKR FONMIN CALLS ON DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL
AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. ON DECEMBER 19, GKR FONMIN KEUKY LIM, ACCOMPANIED BY
AMBASSADOR UM SIM, CALLED SEPARATELY ON THE DEPUTY SECRE-
TARY AND ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB. CONVERSATIONS IN
BOTH CASES DEALT LARGELY ON RECENT UNGA CREDENTIALS ISSUE,
PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND ASSISTANCE FOR CAMBODIA.

2. AT THE BEGINNING OF ABOVE CALLS THERE WERE MUTUAL CON-
GRATULATIONS EXPRESSED REGARDING THE UNGA SUCCESS WHICH
RESULTED FROM TEAM EFFORT THROUGHOUT WORLD BY GKR AND SUP-
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PORTERS. FONMIN PARTICULARLY STRESSED FACT THAT LONG BORET

MUCH IMPRESSED BY THE SECRETARY'S VIGOROUS ASSURANCES OF US AND HIS PERSONAL SUPPORT DURING THEIR MEETING IN NEW YORK. HE ALSO CITED IMPETUS GIVEN BY THE SECRETARY TO THE PRO-GKR EFFORT AMONGST GKR SUPPORTERS, SUCH AS THAILAND WHOSE UN AMB ADMITTED EFFECT ON HIM.

3. ALL PARTICIPANTS IN TALKS AGREED THAT PSYCHOLOGICAL MOVEMENT GAINED BY UNGA VOTE MUST NOT BE LOST AND THAT

EARLY MOVES URGENT. KEUKY LIM PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN US VIEWS BUT FIRST STATED THAT AFTER UN VOTE, LONG BORET HAD SEEN WALDHEIM AND GIVEN INVITATION TO VISIT PHNOM PENH IN ORDER SHOW GKR SINCERITY OF OFFERS TO NEGOTIATE. DURING THIS CONVERSATION, WALDHEIM ASKED FOR LONG BORET'S VIEWS ON WHAT SHOULD FOLLOW AND SAID HE HIMSELF WOULD HAVE TO FOLLOW THE RULES BY CONSULTING THE PARTIES CONCERNED. PRIMIN TOLD WALDHEIM THAT HE THOUGHT A THIRD PARTY MIGHT BE USED FIRST TO FEEL OUT THE OTHER SIDE RATHER THAN HAVE WALDHEIM TRY TO GO DIRECTLY HIMSELF. FONMIN COMMENTED THAT WHILE THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD APPEARED EXTREMELY HESITANT TO BECOME AT ALL INVOLVED IN CAMBODIAN ISSUE PRIOR TO GA VOTE, HE AFTERWARDS SEEMED INTERESTED IN PLAYING A ROLE, STATING THAT IF HE COULD NOT VISIT PHNOM PENH BY FEBRUARY, HE MIGHT APPOINT A SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO DO SO. IN ANY CASE, KHMER QUESTION WOULD BE REVIEWED AT JANUARY 6 MEETING OF THE UN SECRETARIAT STAFF.

4. KEUKY LIM STRESSED NEED FOR MOVEMENT AND CITED FACT THAT SOME ASEAN DELS, ESPECIALLY SINGAPORE AND, TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, INDONESIA, HAD ALREADY WARNED THAT THEY COULD NOT GIVE THE SAME HELP IN 1975 AS THIS YEAR, UNLESS SOME PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE MADE BEFORE NEXT UNGA.

5. IN REPLY TO HIS QUERY REGARDING US VIEWS ON FUTURE STEPS, KEUKY LIM WAS TOLD THAT US POLICY NOT RPT NOT YET FORMULATED BUT UNDER ACTIVE STUDY AND THAT WHEN IT WAS FORMULATED, WE WOULD BE CONSULTING WITH HIS GOVERNMENT. WE AGREED WITH HIM THAT ASEAN AND OTHER FRIENDS SHOULD BE KEPT INFORMED AND INTERESTED IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THEIR SUPPORT BUT, MEANWHILE, IT WAS NECESSARY TO DECIDE ON OB-

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JECTIVES AND POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION.

6. IN RESPONSE TO KEUKY LIM'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S RECENT TRIP TO PEKING AND THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH THE FRENCH PRESIDENT IN MARTINIQUE AS CONCERNS CAMBODIA, HE WAS TOLD THERE HAD BEEN NO ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE CHINESE. RE MARTINIQUE MEETING, KEUKY LIM WAS INFORMED THAT CAMBODIA WAS RAISED AND THE

FRENCH EXPRESSED INTEREST BUT WERE NOT CLEAR ON THEIR POSITION. NEVERTHELESS, IT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN THE FIRST INDICATION THAT FRANCE WANTS TO HELP. ON QUESTION OF FRENCH ATTITUDES, GKR FONMIN STATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WISHES TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH FRANCE BUT THE PRO-SIHANOUK GROUP IN THE QUAI D'ORSAY MAKES COMMUNICATION DIFFICULT. HE HOPED THAT A CHANGE COULD PERHAPS BE EFFECTED IF ONE CAN GET TO THE FRENCH FROM THE TOP, THAT IS VIA GISCARD D'ESTAING.

7. GKR FONMIN EXPRESSED EXTREME ANXIETY REGARDING US AID AND THE ATTITUDE OF THE US CONGRESS. HE EXPRESSED THE FEAR THAT THE CAMBODIAN ECONOMY MIGHT COLLAPSE IF INSUFFICIENT FUNDS PROVIDED. IN RESPONSE, US HOSTS STRESSED TREMENDOUS EFFORT SPENT ON THIS PROBLEM, US RECOGNITION OF ITS SERIOUSNESS AND FACT THAT SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS MIGHT HAVE TO BE MADE. FONMIN WAS URGED TO MAKE FURTHER EFFORTS WITH SUCH FRIENDS AS JAPAN, AUSTRALIA AND INDONESIA FOR COMMODITY HELP, IF NOT FOR FUNDS.

8. KEUKY LIM STATED HE PLANS TO DEPART US DECEMBER 22, PROCEEDING VIA PARIS WITH ETA PHNOM PENH DECEMBER 25.

9. COMMENT: CONVERSATIONS VALUABLE AS OCCASION REASSERT USG SUPPORT FOR GKR BUT ESPECIALLY IN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS, WHICH DEMONSTRATED TO EACH SIDE THE OTHER'S FLEXIBILITY AS TO OUTCOME. CONCRETE DETAILS WERE NOT RPT NOT DISCUSSED. SISCO UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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